THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The details of production and consumption of petrol and diesel in the country during 2003-04 are as under:—

Thousand Metric Tonnes(TMT)

| Product | Production | Consumption |
|---|---|---|
| Petrol | 11211.0 | 7879.0 |
| Diesel | 43129.0 | 37074.0 |

(c) and (d) Oil refining is a continuous process and the cost of refining of individual petroleum products is not worked out separately because all products are produced together. However, weighted average refinery transfer prices during the years 2001-02,2002-03 and 2003-04 were as follows:—

(RS./KL)

| | 2001-02 | 2002-03 | 2003-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Petrol | 8264.83 | 10579.21 | 11636.36 |
| Diesel | 9624.89 | 11422.53 | 11826.71 |

**Subsidy on LPG and kerosene**

†1262. SHRI RUDRANARAYAN PANY:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provide subsidy on L.P.G. and kerosene oil;

(b) if so, the amount of subsidy being provided at present on L.P.G. and kerosene oil;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to reduce this subsidy gradually;

(d) if so, whether Government have formulated any separate scheme for protecting the persons living below poverty line from its impact; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (e) PDS kerosene and domestic LPG are subsidized products. In addition to the Government subsidy, oil PSUs have been sharing the burden by not passing the full increase in international prices on to the domestic consumer prices of these products. During the first half of 2004-05, the estimated provisional under-recovery/subsidyon these products was as follows:

| Product | Government Subsidy | Oil PSUs' under-recoveries | Total Subsidy-under-recoveries |
|---|---|---|---|
| PDS Kerosene (Rs./litre) | 0.82 | 7.05 | 7.87 |
| Domestic LPG (Rs./Cylinder) | 22.58 | 113.03 | 135.61 |

As per current Government policy, the Government subsidy on these two products is to be phased out over a period of five years effective 1.4.2002, *i.e.* Government subsidy would be available upto 31.3.2007. The requirements of BPL families is invariably borne in mind in determining pricing policy.

**Supply of gas from Turkmenistan**

1263. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal from an American Company "Unocal" to lay a pipeline from Turkmenistan to India via Afghanistan and Pakistan is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) if not, whether there are any other proposals under consideration of Government;

(d) whether Government have analyzed the security and economic aspects of the proposal in view of the possible interruption in the supplies through possible militant activities along the supply line; and